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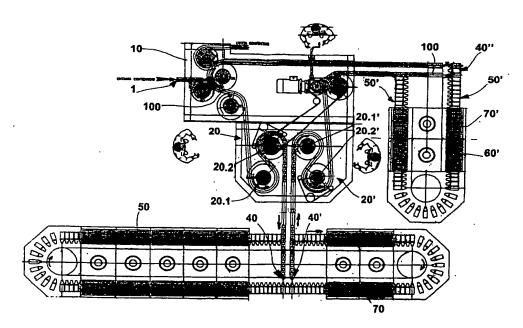
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(54) Title: COATING PROCESS AND COATING PLANT FOR CONTAINERS



(57) Abstract: A process and relating plant for applying protective coats of paint to containers, especially plastic bottles. The process involves gripping the bottles by means of rotating gripping devices fastened to a conveyor chain, and conveying said bottles to all the different stations involved in the process: coating, drying, and curing. Centrifugation is used to remove any excess coating from the external surface of the bottles, keeping the bottles fastened to the same conveyor chain.



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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 B05D1/18 B050 B05C3/09 B05D1/00 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) B05D B05C F26B IPC 7 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category ° Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to daim No. Α GB 936 147 A (SAINT GOBAIN) 1 4 September 1963 (1963-09-04) the whole document A US 5 658 619 A (PUSKARZ STANLEY J ET AL) 1 19 August 1997 (1997-08-19) cited in the application the whole document Α GB 874 743 A (METAL BOX CO LTD) 10 August 1961 (1961-08-10) the whole document FR 1 137 099 A (JUHASZ ZOLTAN) Α 23 May 1957 (1957-05-23) the whole document Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the 'A' document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance 'E' earlier document but published on or after the international filing date invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is clied to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed *&* document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 8 March 2004 12/03/2004 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 **!! - 2230 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo ni, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016 Brothier, J-A



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